



Best Management Practices for Painting

1. Never clean brushes or rinse paint containers into a street, gutter, storm drain, ditch, or coulee.
2. When you are cleaning out your latex rollers and brushes, before you rinse them under the tap, scrape out all the paint that you can with a stir stick or wall scraper or similar tool. By scraping or squeezing as much paint as possible out of your tools before washing them you will make them easier to clean and save the environment. When you are rinsing out equipment, make sure you do it in a sink or similar drain so the waste gets treated and does not go right into the ground and thus into a waterway.
3. For water-based paints, paint out brushes to the extent possible and rinse to a drain leading to the sanitary sewer (i.e., indoor plumbing). Washing out latex paint brushes on a grassy area (away from water or drainage area) is okay, but not preferred.
4. For oil-based paints, paint out brushes to the extent possible, and filter and reuse thinners and solvents. Dispose of unusable thinners and residue as hazardous waste during our Household Chemical Collection Day. Please call our office for location and dates at 337-291-8529.
5. Dried latex paint may be disposed of in the garbage.
6. Recycle, return to supplier or donate unwanted water-based (latex) paint.
7. If your project is going to take more than a day, don't clean your tools out at the end of the day. Wrap them tightly in plastic grocery bags or similar plastic sheeting and they will last overnight and often a few days if you keep them out of the sun.